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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Attn: Box Missing Parts

Hideaki YAMANAKA et al.

Application No.: 09/944,193 /

Filed: September 4, 2001

Docket No.: 110538

For: MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM AND MAGNETIC RECORDING APPARATUS

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE REPLY

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The Notice of Incomplete Reply mailed January 4, 2002 (copy enclosed) asserts that the December 10, 2001 English translation of the application omitted Fig. 18.

In response to the Notice, option III is selected. The filing date of September 4, 2001 should be maintained. Attached is a Preliminary Amendment which deletes all reference to Fig. 18.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Thomas J. Pardini
Registration No. 30,411

JAO:TJP/can

Enclosure:
Notice of Incomplete Reply

Date: January 25, 2002

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231
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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING/RECEIPT DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
09/944,193	09/04/2001	Hideaki Yamanaka	110538

CONFIRMATION NO. 1200

25944
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. BOX 19928
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320

FORMALITIES LETTER



OC000000007269518

Date Mailed: 01/04/2002



NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE REPLY (NONPROVISIONAL)

Filing Date Granted

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has received your reply on 12/10/2001 to the Notice to File Missing Parts (Notice) mailed 10/09/2001 and it has been entered into the nonprovisional application. The reply, however, does not include the following items required in the Notice.

The period of reply remains as set forth in the Notice. You may, however, obtain EXTENSIONS OF TIME under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a) accompanied by the appropriate fee (37 CFR 1.17(a)).

A complete reply must be timely filed to prevent ABANDONMENT of the above-identified application.

The following item(s) appear to have been **omitted** from the application:

- Figure(s) **18** described in the specification.

I. Should applicant contend that the above-noted omitted item(s) was in fact deposited in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with the nonprovisional application papers, a copy of this Notice and a petition (and \$130.00 petition fee (37 CFR 1.17(h))) with evidence of such deposit **must** be filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the date of this Notice. The petition fee will be refunded if it is determined that the item(s) was received by the USPTO.


II. Should applicant desire to supply the omitted item(s) and accept the date that such omitted item(s) was filed in the USPTO as the filing date of the above-identified application, a copy of this Notice, the omitted item(s) (with a supplemental oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.63 and 1.64 referring to such items), and a petition under 37 CFR 1.182 (with the \$130.00 petition fee (37 CFR 1.17(h))) requesting the later filing date **must** be filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the date of this Notice.

III. The failure to file a petition (and petition fee) under the above options (I) or (II) within **TWO MONTHS** of the date of this Notice (37 CFR 1.181(f)) will be treated as a constructive acceptance by the applicant of the application as deposited in the USPTO. **THIS TWO MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) or (b).** In the absence of a timely filed petition in reply to this Notice, the application will maintain a filing date as of the date of deposit of the application papers in the USPTO, and original application papers (*i.e.*, the original disclosure of the invention) will include only those application papers present in the USPTO on the date of deposit.

In the event that applicant elects not to take action pursuant to options (I) or (II) above (thereby constructively electing option (III)), amendment of the specification to renumber the pages consecutively and cancel incomplete

sentences caused by any omitted page(s), and/or amendment of the specification to cancel all references to any omitted drawing(s), relabel the drawing figures to be numbered consecutively (if necessary), and correct the references in the specification to the drawing figures to correspond with any relabelled drawing figures, is required. Any drawing changes should be accompanied by a copy of the drawing figures showing the proposed changes in red ink. Such amendment and/or correction to the drawing figures, if necessary, should be by way of preliminary amendment submitted prior to the first Office action to avoid delays in the prosecution of the application.

A copy of this notice MUST be returned with the reply.

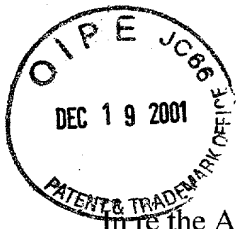


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Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE

20044193-012502



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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Hideaki YAMANAKA et al.

Application No.: 09/944,193

Filed: September 4, 2001

Docket No.: 110538

For: MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM AND MAGNETIC RECORDING
APPARATUS

LETTER TO THE OFFICIAL DRAFTSPERSON

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please substitute the attached 12 sheets of formal drawings depicting Figures 1-18 for
the corresponding drawings filed with the application.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Joel S. Armstrong
Registration No. 36,430

JAO:JSA/kaf

Date: December 19, 2001

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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